



State Board of Equalization 1999-2000 Annual Report



Board Members

Johan Klehs
First District

Dean Andal
Second District

Claude Parrish
Third District

John Chiang
Fourth District

Kathleen Connell
State Controller

James E. Speed
Executive Director

Mission

The mission of the State Board of Equalization is to serve the public through fair, effective, and efficient tax administration.

Goals

The State Board of Equalization will

- Interpret and apply tax and fee laws correctly, consistently, and fairly.
- Collect and allocate revenues as required by law.
- Assess and allocate property values as required by law.
- Educate and assist tax- and feepayers to comply voluntarily, while minimizing their compliance burden.
- Provide high-quality customer service, using well-qualified staff and state-of-the-art technology.
- Achieve program objectives at the lowest possible cost.

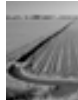
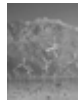
The State Board of Equalization was established in the nineteenth century and has grown and changed along with the state. This turn-of-the-century annual report features photographs from the turn of the last century as well as images of California life today.

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State Board of Equalization



The Honorable Gray Davis
Governor of California
May 2001

Dear Governor Davis:

On behalf of the Members and staff of the State Board of Equalization, I am pleased to submit to you our first *Annual Report* of the new millennium, for fiscal year 1999-00.

At the turn of the last century, the Board's role was limited to ensuring the fair and equitable administration of the state's property tax laws. The state had no sales tax, no income tax, and none of the special taxes and fees we know today. As the century moved forward and our state and society became more complex, our role expanded and evolved into the form described in the pages of this report.

In 1999-00, we administered a variety of taxes and fees that produced more than \$39 billion in revenues for state and local governments. Board-administered revenues yielded nearly \$30 billion for state purposes, more than 34 percent of total state income for the fiscal year.

At the end of the nineteenth century, there were 116 incorporated cities in California, 57 counties, and not one special taxing district. This fiscal year, our agency collected \$10 billion that directly benefits 474 cities, 58 counties, and 38 special taxing districts.

Since the turn of the last century, California has seen the coming of the automobile and the computer, great social and workplace changes, massive increases in population, a greatly expanded demand for government services and infrastructure, and the recent birth of e-commerce. Just as our agency adapted to those remarkable changes, we are prepared for whatever this new century may bring, and we will continue to serve the people of our great state to the best of our ability.

Sincerely,

James E. Speed
Executive Director

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Produced by the Customer and Taxpayer Services Division and Agency Planning
and Research Division

Editor: Katherine K. Evatt

Design and production: Cheryl McDonald, CDE Press, California Department of Education

Photo Credits

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